Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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UNCLAS KUWAIT 5256

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: BEXP KU

SUBJECT: CONSTRUCTION OF KUWAIT ZOO

REF: (A) KUWAIT 4486, (B) USDOC 19072, (C) STATE 228029, (D) STATE 218454.

1. WY PROMISED REF A, EMBASSY HAS DISCUSSED STATUS OF CONSULTANCY CONTRACT FOR KUWAIT ZOO PROJECT WITH SALEM AL-MANNAI, DIRECTOR, HKEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, GOK MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS. (MANNAI HAD BEEN UNAVAILABLE PREVIOUSLY, HAVING ATTENDED AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE IN TUNIS.) MANNAI NOTED THAT HIS DEPARTMENT WAS ORIGINALLY INTERESTED IN A DESIGN AND MASTER PLAN CONTRACT FOR NEW ZOO, BUT SOON DISCOVERED THAT COSTS FOR SUCH A STUDY WOULD EXCEED MPW'S BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR THIS ITEM. GOK THEN DECIDEDILO SEEK A PRELIMINARY STUDY TO DETERMINE COSTS FOR BOTH STUDIES AND EVENTUAL PROJECT ITSELF. THIS STUDY WAS AWARDED IN SEPTEMBER TO ANIMAL-PEOPLE ENVIRONMENT OF LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA, (ZOO ANIMAL PEOPLE COMMUNITY AS REPORTED REF A).

2. MANNAI INFORMED EMBOFF THAT ONCE THIS STUDY PP COMPLETED, A MORE DETAILED DESIGN MASTER PLAN STUDY CONTRACT WOULD BE AWARDED. WHEN ASKED WHETHER THIS WOULD BE AWARDED TO ANIMAL PEOPLE ENVIRONMENT, MANNAI SAID THAT THIS WOULD DEPEND ON RESULT OF PRESENT STUDY, BUT THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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CONTRACT WOULD PROBABLY BE OPEN TO OTHER FIRMS.

3. AS TO MCFADZEAN AND EVERLY INTEREST, MANNAI DID NOT RECALL NAME BUT PROMISED TO GO OVER HIS CORRESPONDENCE AND REPLY TO COMPANY RE THEIR INTEREST IN PROJEIH.

AL-MANNAI SUGGESTED THAT COMPANY CONTACT HIM AGAIN, VIA LETTER, RENEWING THEIR INTEREST.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: COMMERCE/CAGNE IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE MR. MEHRTENS OF MCFADZEAN AND EVERLY THAT MPW APPARENTLY REMAINS INTERESTED IN CONSULTING FIRMS FOR DESIGN OF MAJOR (\$60 MILLION) ZOO PROJECT, AND SHOULD CONTACT AGRICULTURE DPARTMENT DIRECTOR MANNAI PROMPTLY. TO FACILITATE CONTACOWN FIRMS SHOULD CONSIDER VISIT TO KUWAIT FOR DIRECT TALKS WITH RELEVANT GOK OFFICIALS. MAESTRONE

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